

**South Dakota National Guard
Public Affairs Office
2823 West Main St.
Rapid City, S.D. 57702**

**Phone 605-737-6721
E-mail PAO@sd.ngb.army.mil**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Custer's VFW Post 3442 hosts banquet honoring 235th MPs

*By Roger C. Anderson
Information Officer*

RAPID CITY, S.D. – Soldiers and family members from the 235th Military Police Company will be honored at a Welcome Home Banquet Saturday night, Dec. 6, at the Kenneth Kuper VFW Post 3442 in Custer.

The VFW will host the event which begins with a social gathering at 5 p.m., followed by a holiday dinner and a dance.

“Our members just wanted a chance to show our appreciation and thank the Soldiers for their service and sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan,” said Roger Kline, post adjutant. “We’re planning on serving about 260 meals.”

The 235th, of Custer, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls, mobilized in October of 2006, trained at Fort Bliss, Texas, before serving a year-long tour in Afghanistan. The unit returned home in January 2008.

“We sent a lot of care packages to them while they were deployed,” said Kline. “We’re kind of a patriotic bunch with a lot of Vietnam veterans. And we really want to thank them for a job well done.”

Kline said that babysitters will be provided throughout the event that includes a morning brunch on Sunday.

VFW Post 3442 is located at 721 Mount Rushmore Road in Custer.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Mr. Roger Anderson at (605) 737-6268.

NOTE: Since the terrorist attacks on America, the South Dakota National Guard has mobilized more than 3,100 Soldiers and 1,000 Airmen in support of the Global War on Terror.

Currently, about 40 Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard remain on duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations throughout Southwest Asia and Europe. More than 4,300 National Guardsmen are available in South Dakota to provide support for state and national emergencies and homeland defense.